

Taka-Aki Sato
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Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph at page 13, lines 11-22 in the following manner:

Additional variations to the embodiments described herein may be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art from reading U.S. patent applications Serial Nos. 08/681,219 (filed July 22, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,911,526) and 09/230,111 (filed May 17, 1999, currently pending). The contents of U.S. Serial Nos. 08/681,219 and 09/230,111 are hereby incorporated by reference.